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LETTER DATED 3 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to submit to you the attached letter, dated 3 August 1993, by the President of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, addressed to Your Excellency.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 3 August 1993 from the President of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Delegation of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina is here in Geneva negotiating in good faith in order to seek a settlement in accordance with the United Nations Charter, the relevant Security Council resolutions and the Principles of the London Conference. Despite the prior assurances we received from the United Nations and the European Community before coming here, we have just now received information that yesterday, the aggressor forces launched repeated attacks against the towns of Brcko, Maglaj, Tesanj, Olovo, and upon the mountains around the capital of our State, Sarajevo. In the town of Tesanj, the aggressors used ground to ground missiles of the Luna type, with devastating effect upon the civilian population. Moreover, the humanitarian situation for the civilian population living in these areas has deteriorated to subhuman conditions. There is no water, food or gas supplies for tens of thousands of human beings.

We wish to draw your attention that here at United Nations Headquarters in Geneva we are repeatedly confronted with diktats and ultimatums that we accept faits accomplis based upon the illegal use of force, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and genocide. This is in explicit violation of the United Nations Charter, the relevant Security Council resolutions, and the Principles of the London Conference.

The recent initiatives by President Clinton and NATO upholding the principles of the United Nations Charter and the London Conference have encouraged us to remain here despite all these difficulties. However, in the light of these recent developments, we are asking you to take urgent and necessary action to terminate and reverse these results of aggression and genocide for the purpose of promoting a settlement here in Geneva, and to alleviate the catastrophic suffering of our people at home. On our part, this is to inform you that the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina has today issued an order to our Armed Forces to use force strictly in self-defence.

Please accept the expressions of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Alija IZETBEGOVIC
President of the Presidency